

**Central Department of Mathematics  
Institute of Science and Technology  
Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal  
Regulation for M.A./M.Sc. Mathematics Thesis 2073  
(First Revised-2076 and Second Revised-2081)**

## **1. Introduction**

Mathematics education and research in the Institute of Science and Technology at Tribhuvan University were further accelerated by introducing the Semester System with M.A./M.Sc. Dissertation in the year 1973. A number of Central Departments in the Institute of Science and Technology at Tribhuvan University have been continuing this course (either compulsory or optional) as a requirement for the Master's degree. The Central Department of Mathematics has introduced thesis writing as an optional course in its curriculum. The thesis submitted for examination must render a good understanding of the subject matter. It must show evidence of a critical presentation of a stated problem through the exercise of independence and critical power or a new interpretation of facts, theories, and applications. An original contribution will be preferable. Moreover, this basic research work should provide at least a basis for further research, like a Ph.D. The Master's thesis of the mathematics department will be regulated by the Department Research Committee (DRC). Each concerning department will form a DRC from its faculty members under the chairmanship of the Head of the concerning department. The thesis will be conducted according to the following rules and regulations.

## **2. Entry Requirement**

A regular second-year (3rd Semester) student of M.A./M.Sc. is eligible to write a Master's degree thesis in mathematics, provided they have secured at least a pass division (minimum 3.0 GPA in each subject) in the first semester of the first year of their Master's degree.

## **3. Supervisor(s) Qualification**

1. The thesis supervisor/s should be either a Professor or a Ph.D. holder faculty associated with the mathematics department. An associate professor with at least ten years of teaching experience is also eligible to be a supervisor in the field of his expertise
2. Other faculty members associated with the department of mathematics can be co-supervisors.
3. Foreign mathematicians and faculties from other universities of Nepal can also be co-supervisors.

## **4. Number of Students for a Supervisor**

1. At a time, a faculty can supervise at most TWO students and a co-supervise at most TWO. If many students are interested in taking the thesis, DRC can make a special decision to increase the limit.
2. The final approval of the candidates and the supervisors will be made by the Head of the department on the recommendation of DRC.
3. A co-supervisor can work as a supervisor after the co-supervision of 8 students.

4. For the interdisciplinary thesis work, there should be at least two supervisors (or a supervisor and a co-supervisor) from the related subjects one of which must be a mathematics faculty member.

## **5. Candidate Selection and Approval**

1. A candidate interested in writing a Master's degree thesis in mathematics should apply to the concerned department of mathematics as soon as the session of third semester starts.
2. The application form in the approved format shall be available from the department. The application form should list the name of available supervisor(s), research area and the maximum number of students the supervisor(s) would guide that year. Then each student should give their preference for supervisors.
3. For the selection, the Department Research Committee (DRC) will organize either a written test or an interview or both. Evaluation will be based on the score of this test and the result of the first year (Semester I & II) internal examination. DRC will publish the merit list and fix the minimum score to be obtained.
4. Then each concerned supervisor will fix the minimum score for their consent and DRC will publish the final list for thesis writing.
5. The final approval of the candidates and the supervisors will be made by the Head of the department on the recommendation of DRC.

## **6. Supervision of the Thesis**

1. The duty of the supervisor(s) shall be to guide the candidate in his research. He/she should monitor the student regularly.
2. A candidate shall undertake his thesis work for the Master's degree under the guidance of a supervisor/s approved by the DRC.
3. DRC will recommend the change of supervisor/s under the genuine cases (e.g., supervisor/s left the university or disagrees to supervise the candidate).
4. Each candidate has to present his progress work done at least once in a seminar before faculties and others. This seminar will be organized by DRC during the session of the academic year.
5. The title proposed in this seminar will be provisional. It will be finalized at the time of submission.

## **7. Mandatory Plagiarism Screening Standards**

Candidate should strictly follow the guidelines from the Institute of Science and Technology Dean's Office regarding the Plagiarism Screening Standards for conducting plagiarism checks through the iThenticate software:

1. Similarity Index should not exceed 20% for research papers at the Master's level.
2. Small Matches Threshold should be established at 10 words.
3. Screening Exclusions:
  - Quotations and references are allowed.
  - Matches below 1% from smaller sources will be disregarded.
  - Abstracts, methods, and materials sections are exempt from the screening process.

## **7. Time bounds for the Submission**

1. The thesis should be submitted only after the completion of six months of approval.
2. The candidate should submit the thesis within one year of approval. However, he/she is advised to submit the thesis within the time limit according to the examination board of Tribhuvan University.
3. If necessary, on the candidate's request after the completion of his/her one-year work, an extension can be recommended by DRC consulting the concerned supervisor for a maximum period of three months.

## **8. Submission of Thesis**

1. On the completion of the thesis work, the candidate shall submit two copies of the computer-printed thesis and its 1-page summary in a given format to the Head of the concerning department.
2. The DRC will approve a thesis format through the concerned supervisors. In this format, DRC will approve a declaration that a candidate has to write through the supervisor(s).
3. The thesis can be submitted only with a signed declaration of the supervisor (s) and the candidate.
4. The thesis submitted should satisfy the academic/ scientific requirements mentioned in the introduction of this regulation. It must also be satisfactory in terms of English language and presentation.

## **9. Evaluation of Thesis**

1. The Head of the department shall ask the supervisor to recommend the name of an external on the concerned subject for the thesis examination.
2. The candidate shall have to defend with an open oral examination. (Viva-voce), before the DRC, supervisor, external examiner, and faculties. The seminar will be conducted by the DRC.
3. For viva-voce unsuccessful candidates rejected by DRC, another three months time will be given to the candidate to resubmit the thesis. For the resubmitted thesis the result for the candidate will be limited to first division or grade B.
4. For viva-voce successful candidates approved by DRC, the supervisor, and the external expert shall give final marking to the candidate. The Head of the department shall forward the result to Dean's office.
5. The publication of results on successful candidates will be according to the rules of the examination board of Tribhuvan University.

## **10. Ethical Issues**

1. The master's thesis student should maintain all ethical rules that apply to the researchers. He/she should follow all the rules and regulations of TU-IOST and CDM subject to the changes over the period of time.
2. Plagiarizing all or part of a thesis shall make the entire document unacceptable.
3. If a Thesis is found plagiarized even after its approval and award of the degree to students, the thesis may be disapproved by the University at any time, and as a consequence, the students'

degree may also be canceled, if the court of law orders the University to do so upon someone's complaint with sufficient proof.